GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2930
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2000
REDUCTION OF STAFF
DUKHA BHAGAT

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has suggested her Ministry to off load about four lakhs employees;

(b) if so, the reasons given by the World Bank therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a): No, Sir. However, in its 1995 Report titled `India Transport Sector,` the World Bank indicated that atleast 5 lakh employees working on the Railways could be considered as redundant.

(b): According to the World Bank, this work force was engaged on the Metre Gauge System and in a large number of workshops, yards, freight and passenger stations on the Broad Gauge System, which were no longer required in view of the now specialised bulk, post steam, unit train freight operation.

(c): The Railways have been retraining/redeploying the redundant staff and also right-sizing the work force on different areas of operation. As a result of this continuous effort, the work force which was 17.05 lakhs on 31.3.94 has reduced to 15.77 lakhs on 31.3.2000. This effort is continuing.